

## CLAIMS:

1. A video recorder unit comprising:
  - a receiver for receiving at least one of a plurality of mixed content video channels having a mixed content of special content clips and programs;
  - a memory for storing selected video signals from the received channels,
  - 5 a detection processor for detecting the presence of a special content clip in the at least one of the plurality of channels;
  - an extraction controller for extracting special content clips from the at least one of the plurality of channels in response to the detection by the detection processor and storing the special content clip in the memory;
  - 10 a group controller for creating a group of special content clips by grouping a plurality of special content clips extracted and stored by the extraction controller; and
  - a play back video generator for playing back the group of the special content clips whereby the user is presented with a continuous sequence of special content clips extracted from the plurality of mixed content channels.
- 15 2. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 1 wherein the video recorder unit is a personal video recorder.
3. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 1 wherein the play back video  
20 generator is operable to generate only one play back video signal, and the video recorder unit comprises a user input interface operable to receive a user input and the video recorder being operable to either play back the group of special content clips or programs in response to this user input.
- 25 4. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 3 wherein the video recorder is operable to change the play back from a first special content clip to a corresponding program in response to the user input detecting an activation during the play back of the first special contents clip.

5. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 1 wherein the video recorder unit further comprises a controller operable to arrange at least one video recording in response to a user input selection of a special content clip and an association between the special content clip and at least a related program.

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6. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 5 wherein the special content clip is a preview of the related program and the at least one video recording is at least one video recording of the related program.

10 7. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 5 wherein the related program comprises a plurality of sub programs individually transmitted on the mixed content video channels, and the at least one video recording is a recording of each of the sub programs of the related program.

15 8. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 1 wherein the special content clip is a preview clip

9. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 1 wherein the extraction controller is further operable to determine if a special content clip is already stored in the memory and not  
20 to store the special content clip if so.

10. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 9 wherein the extraction controller is operable to store an identification of each stored special content clip, the identification being derived from the video content of each stored video content clip, and detection if the special  
25 content clip is already stored is by comparison of an identification of the special content clip with the identifications stored.

11. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 1 wherein the detection processor is operable to detect that a special content clip is being received from information data  
30 comprised in the video transmission.

12. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 1 wherein the detection processor is operable to detect that a special content clip is being received from content analysis of the received video signal.

13. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 1 wherein the play back video generator is operable to play back a selected sub group of the group of special content clips in response to a user profile.

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14. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 1 wherein the play back video generator is operable to play back the group of special content clips in an order dependent on previous viewing of special content clips of the group of special content clips.

10 15. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 1 wherein the play back video generator is operable to play back the group of special content clips in an order dependent on a user preference profile.

15 16. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 1 the video recorder unit further comprising a remote control having a special content clip activation user input, and wherein the video recorder unit is operable to begin play back of the special content clips upon activation of the special content clip activation user input.

20 17. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 16 wherein the video recorder unit is operable upon activation of the special content clip activation user input to:

if the group of special content clips is being played back, set a recording arrangement for a program corresponding to a special content clip currently being played, and

25 if the group of special content clips is not being played back, begin the play back of the group of special content clips.

18. A video recorder unit as claimed in claim 16 wherein the video recorder unit is operable upon activation of the special content clip activation user input during play back of the group of special content clips to:

30 start play back of the next special content clip of the group of content clip for a shorter activation of the special content clip activation user input; and

set a recording arrangement for a program corresponding to a special content clip currently being played for a longer activation of the special content clip activation user input.

19. A video broadcast system comprising at least one video recorder in accordance with claim 1.

- 5 20. A method of operation for a video recorder comprising the steps of:  
receiving a plurality of mixed content video channels having a mixed content  
of special content clips and programs;  
toring selected video signals from the received channels in a memory  
detecting the presence of a special content clip in at least one of the plurality  
10 of channels;  
extracting special content clips from the mixed content channels in response to  
the detection of the presence of a special content clip and storing the special content clip in  
the memory;  
creating a group of special content clips by grouping a plurality of extracted  
15 and stored special content clips; and  
playing back the group of the special content clips whereby the user is  
presented with a continuous sequence of special content clips extracted from the plurality of  
mixed content channels.